

It is believed that no fee is due; however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason, the Assistant Commissioner is authorized to deduct said fees from deposit account 50-1212/UTXC:504.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

I. AMENDMENT

In the Specification

Please insert the following paragraph as the first sentence of the application following the title:

G -- The present application is a continuation of USSN 08/726,211, filed October 4, 1996, now abandoned. --

In the Claims

Please amend claims 1, 9, 10, 21, 31, 37 and 52 as follows:

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1. (Six times amended) A composition comprising a first antisense polynucleotide that hybridizes to a second, Bcl-2-encoding polynucleotide under intracellular conditions and a neutral phospholipid associated with said first polynucleotide, to form a Bcl-2 polynucleotide/neutral phospholipid association, wherein said first polynucleotide comprises at least 8 nucleotides of the sequence CAGCGTGCGGCCATCCTTC (SEQ ID NO:1), wherein said polynucleotide is complementary to the translation initiation site of Bcl-2.

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9. (Five times amended) A composition comprising an expression construct that encodes a first antisense polynucleotide that hybridizes to a second, Bcl-2-encoding polynucleotide

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under intracellular conditions, wherein said construct is under the control of a promoter that is active in eukaryotic cells and associated with a neutral phospholipid, wherein said first polynucleotide comprises at least 8 nucleotides of the sequence CAGCGTGCGCCATCCTTC (SEQ ID NO:1), wherein said polynucleotide is complementary to the translation initiation site of Bcl-2.

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10. (Twice amended) A method of inhibiting proliferation of a Bcl-2-associated disease cell comprising obtaining a first polynucleotide that hybridizes to a second polynucleotide under intracellular conditions, mixing the first polynucleotide with a neutral phospholipid to form a composition comprising a polynucleotide/phospholipid association, and administering said association to said Bcl-2-associated disease cell to inhibit the proliferation of said disease cell, wherein said cell has a t(14;18) translocation, and wherein the second polynucleotide comprises at least 8 bases of the translation initiation site of Bcl-2 mRNA.

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21. (Twice amended) A method of inhibiting proliferation of a Bcl-2-associated disease cell having a t(14;18) translocation comprising:

- obtaining an oligonucleotide of from about 8 to about 50 bases and complementary to at least 8 consecutive bases of the translation initiation site of Bcl-2 mRNA;
- mixing the oligonucleotide with a neutral phospholipid to form a neutral oligonucleotide/phospholipid association; and

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(c) administering said association to said Bcl-2-associated disease cell to inhibit the proliferation of said disease cell.

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31. (Four times amended) A neutral phospholipid oligonucleotide association comprising a neutral phospholipid associated with an antisense oligonucleotide of from about 8 to about 50 bases and complementary to the translation initiation site of Bcl-2 mRNA, wherein said translation initiation site comprises the sequence CAGCGTGCGCCATCCTTC (SEQ ID NO:1).

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37. (Twice amended) A composition comprising a neutral phospholipid associated with an expression construct that encodes an oligonucleotide of from about 8 to about 50 bases and complementary to at least 8 bases of the translation initiation site of Bcl-2 mRNA, wherein the construct is under the control of a promoter that is active in eukaryotic cells.

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52. (Thrice amended) A composition comprising a first antisense polynucleotide that hybridizes to a second, Bcl-2-encoding polynucleotide under intracellular conditions and a primary phosphatide associated with said first polynucleotide, wherein said primary phosphatide is a neutral phospholipid, and wherein said first polynucleotide comprises at least 8 nucleotides of the sequence CAGCGTGCGCCATCCTTC (SEQ ID NO:1), and wherein said polynucleotide is complementary to the translation initiation site of Bcl-2.

Please add the following new claims, claims 57 – 61:

57. The composition of any one of claims 1, 9, 37 or 52, further comprising a charged phospholipid.

58. The composition of claim 57, wherein the charged phospholipid is a positively charged phospholipid.

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59. The method of claim 10 or 21, further comprising a charged phospholipid.

60. The method of claim 57, wherein the charged phospholipid is a positively charged phospholipid.

61. The neutral lipid association of claim 31, further comprising positively and negatively charged phospholipids.

II. REMARKS

A. State of the Claims

Claims 1, 9, 10, 21, 31, 37 and 52 have been amended. Claims 57-61 have been added.

Claims 1-41, 43-50, 52-61 are currently pending in the case.

Claims 1, 9, 10, 21, 31, 37 and 52 were amended to clarify that the "lipid" contemplated under the claim is specifically a "phospholipid."